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THE CREATION

OF

ANGELS

BY

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1.1 In the treatise Sha'bul Imam, Imam Bahiqi (Radi Allah Anho), reports a Hadith from Sayyiduna Jabir (Radi Allah Anho) in which Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah () has stated:

"When Almighty Allah created Sayyiduna Nabi Adam (Alehis salam)and his progeny, the Angels remarked. "O Almighty Allah! You have created such beings that eat and drink, cohabit and travel. Make the world a place for their dwelling and let us be the inmates of the Hereafter."

The Most Revered Almighty Allah Replied:

I shall not make him who has been fashioned by My Power, and in whom I have bequeathed the spirit and then Commanded, "Be!" and he became.

Form this Hadith, one important fact emerges. While the creation of man was effected through a gradual and systematic process, namely, the stage of dust, which was then shaped into a human form, and finally, the bequeathing of the soul in him. Looking at it from another angle, first the stage of sperm, then a speck of blood which changed to a piece of meat, then the formation of limbs, which then took human shape, and finally, the soul been bequeathed.

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Angels, on the other hand, are created by the Supreme Command "Be" and they become, or they come into existence.

Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah () has stated: 1.2

خلقت الملائكة من نور و خلق الجان من نارو خلق آدم مما و صف لكم (كما عند ابن سعد عن ابي ذر رضي الله تعالىٰ عنهُ عن النبي صلى الله تعالىٰ عليه وسلم و هذا رواه امام احمد و مسلم عن ام المؤمنين رضي الله تعالىٰ عنها)

Angels are created from light. The Jinn's from fire containing smoke, and Savviduna Nabi Adam (Alehis salam) from that already mentioned to you.

(Namely black, white and red sand according to Sayyiduna Ibne- Sa'ad (Radi Allah Anho) who narrates from Sayyiduna Abu-Zar (Radi Allah Anho), who narrates from Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah (). Imam Ahmed bin Hambal (Radi Allah Anho), and Imam Muslim (Radi Allah Anho), narrate from Ummul-Mo'mineen Sayyadah Ayesha Siddigah (Radi Allah Unha).

Sayyiduna Imam Abdur-Raz'zaq (Radi Allah 1.3 Anho), (Ustaaz of Imam Bukhari) in his Musannaf narrates another Hadith Shareef from Sayyiduna Jabir bin Abdullah (Radi Allah Anho), in which Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah () is reported to have stated:

يا جابر ان الله تعالى قد خلق قبل الاشيآء نور نبيك من نوره (الى قوله) فلما ارادالله ان يخلق الخلق قسم ذالك النور اربعة اجزاء فخلق من الجزاء الاول القلم ومن الثاني اللوح ومن الثالث العرش ثم قسم اربع اربعة اجزاء فخلق من الاول حملة العوش ومن الثاني الكرسي ومن الثالث باقي الملائكة. (الحديث)

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O Jabir! Most certainly Almighty Allah Created the Noor (Light) of your Nabi before anything else. Then, when He decided to create the world, He divided the Noor (Light) of your Nabi into four portions. From the first portion, He created the Qalam of destiny, from the second, the Lohe-Mahfooz, from the third, the Divine portions. From the first portion, He created those Angels who are the bearers of the from the second, the Divine Chair and from the third, the rest of the Angels.

1.4 Allama Faasi (Radi Allah Anho), in his book "Mutaali-ul-Musarrat" under the discussion of Dala'il has recorded the following Hadith from Imam Ash'ari (Radi Allah Anho), who narrates,

Verily, the Almighty Allah is an Incomparable Light, the soul of Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah () is the splendid glow of that light. Almighty Allah first created my Noor (light) and from this Noor He created everything else.

Sayyiduna Abu Sheikh (Radi Allah Anho), narrates the following Hadith from Sayyiduna Akramah (Radi Allah Anho), who reports that Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah (**) has stated:

Most certainly, Angels are created from the Divine Noor (light) of Almighty Allah.

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It is also narrated by Sayyiduna Yazeed bin Romaan 1.6 (Radi Allah Anho), that he received the following information:

ان الملائكة خلقت من نور الله

Indeed the Angels are created from Divinely Blessed light.

I (Imam Ahmed Raza) say that a commentary of Imam Badruddin Mahmood Ai'nee (Radi Allah Anho), of a similar Hadith is found in his book Umdatul Qaari Sharah Sahi-ul-Bukhari (Radi Allah Anho), carrying an interesting observation of Sayyiduna Ali (Radi Allah Anho) where in he mentions:

There is an Angel named Rooh, who has seventy thousand heads, Each head has seventy thousand faces, and face contains seventy thousand mouths. Each mouth is made up of seventy thousand tongues and each tongue is blessed with seventy thousand tongues and each tongue is blessed with seventy thousand languages.

يسبح الله تعالىٰ بتلك اللغات كلها يخلق من كل تسبيحة ملك يطير مع الملائكة الى يوم القيامة

(ذكر الامام البدر الدين محمود العيني في عمدة القاري شرح بخاري

من كتاب التفسير و الامام الرازى في تفسير الكبير)

"By means of these languages, this Angel is constantly reciting the Tasbeeh of Almighty Allah From each Tasbeeh, one Angel is being Created. This angel soars into the Heavens with the rest of the three Angels until the Day of Judgment".

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1.7 Sayyiduna Tha'alb (Radi Allah Anho), has reported a Hadith from Sayyiduna Abdullah ibne Mas'ood (Radi Allah Anho), who mentions that the Beloved Habeeb () has stated:

"There is an Angel named Rooh who is of greater magnitude than the Heavens and the Earth, as well as the mountains and the other Angels. Its station is the Fourth Sky".

Daily, he recites twelve thousand Tasbeeh. From each Tasbeeh, one Angel is created. On the Day of Judgment, this Angel will form one complete row himself, while the rest of the Angels will form another row.

Referring to this Hadith, several Scholars have made interesting comments. Imam Al Baghawi (Radi Allah Anho) in his book Al-Mua'allim quotes that the verse, "Rooh and the other Angels will stand in rows on the Day of Judgment", refers to the above Hadith. Imam Badruddin Mahmood Ai'nee (Radi Allah Anho) in his book Umdatul Qari Sharah Sahi-ul-Bukhari says that the verse, "And they shall question you regarding Rooh" refers to this Hadith.

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In the book Mawahib-ul-Ladunnia, Imam Ibne Hajr Qastalani (Radi Allah Anho) states: "There is a celestial world found in the Heaven (made from water and smoke), wherein are Angles created from water and air. The leader of these Angels is Ra'ad, who is responsible for the clouds and rain".

1.8 Sheikh Akber Muhiuddin ibne arabi (Radi Allah Anho), states in his book Al Futuhaate Makkiyah (Radi Allah Anho), that:

"Almighty Allah first sparked a bright refulgence from light. Then, He created darkness. On the darkness, the image of this light shone, which revealed the light of the morning, but included the darkness of the night, Almighty Allah Created those Angels which are found within the precincts of the Divine Throne (Arsh) and the Divine Chair (Kursi). These Angels also reflect the material of the Divine Chair."

The above is recorded by Sheikh-e-Akbar (Radi Allah Anho), in the thirteenth chapter of Futahaate-Makkiyah and also quoted by Imam Abdul-Wah'ab Sharani (Radi Allah Anho), in his Al-Yuwaqeet-wal-Jawahir.

1.9 Sayyiduna Abu Saeed (Radi Allah Anho) narrates the following Hadith of Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah () in which he has stated:

Verily, there is a river in Heaven, in which whenever Jibra'il (Alehis salam) submerges his wings and shakes it, small droplets of water drip from it. From each droplet, an Angel is created.

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Indeed, one cannot estimate the droplets of water that drips from the wing of Sayyiduna Jibra'il (Alehis salam). Why, simply because Sayyiduna Jibra'il (Alehis salam) has six hundred wings and each wings is so huge that when he spreads it, it casts a shadow over the entire sky.

It has been reported from Sayyiduna ibne Abi Hatim Imam Aqueeli (Radi Allah Anho), and Sayyiduna Abu Hurairah (Radi Allah Anho), that Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah () has stated:

في السماء الرابعة نهر يقال له الحيوان يدخله جبرئيل كل يوم فينغمس فيه انغماسة منه يخرج فينقض فيه انتفاضة فيخرج عنه سبعون الف قطرة يخلق الله من كل قطرة ملكا هو الذين يؤمرون ان يأتوا البيت امعمور فليصو ا فيفعلون ثم يخرجون فلا يعودون اليه ابد اولولي عليهم احدهم ثم يؤمر ان يقف بهم في السمآء موقفا يسبحون الله الى ان تقوم الساعة

موقوفا قاله الامام الحافظ ابن حجر و معلوم ان الموقوف كالمرفوع اقول الحديث سقط ما نقل الفاسي عن الولى العراقي ان لم يثبت في ذلك شئى فقد اثبة الحافظ و فوق كل ذي علم عليم)

In the fourth Heaven, there is a river called Haywaan (River of Life). Each day Jibra'il (Alehis salam) dips in it and shakes his wings letting of seventy thousand drops. From each of these droplets Almighty Allah Creates one Angel, These Angels are commanded to perform Salah, they come out from the Bait-ul-Ma'moor never to return. One Angel from this groups is appointed their leader and he is delegated the duty of taking these angels to one spot in the Heaven where they will stand reciting the Tasbeeh of Almighty Allah till the Day of Judgment.

1.11 Imam Ata Imam Maqaatil (Radi Allah Anho), and Imam Dhahaq (Radi Allah Anho), report a Hadith as narrated By Sayyiduna Abdullah ibne Abbas (Radi Allah Anho), in which Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah () has stated :

عن يمين العرش نهرامن نور مثل السموات السبع والارضين السبع و البحار السبع يدخل فيه جبرئيل عليه السلام كل سحر و يغتسل فيه فيزداد نورا الى نوره و جمالا الى جماله ثم ينقض فيخلق الله تعالى من كل نقطة تقع من ريشه كذا كذا الف ملك تدخل منهم البيت السبعون الفائم اليعودون اليه الى ان تقوم الساعة (ذكره الامام فخر الدين الرازى في تفسير قوله تعالى و يخلق ما لاتعلون)

On the right-hand side of the Divine Throne is found a River of Light, which in magnitude is equal to the seven Heavens, the seven crusts of the earth and the seven oceans. In it Jibra'il (Alehis salam) bathes each morning, where by his brightness and beauty is constantly increased. When Jibra'il (Alehis salam) comes out of this water, he flutters his wings. From each drop that fall from his wings, a thousand Angels are created and from these multitude of Angels seventy thousand are commanded to enter the Bait-ul-Ma'moor, none of whom will get another chance to enter this illustrious place until the Day of Judgment.

In the above Hadith Shareef, Imam Fakruddin Raazi (Radi Allah Anho), has quoted a Hadith in his treatise Tafseer in support of the commentary of the verse: "And He creates that which you will not perceive."

1.12 Imam Abu-Naeem (Radi Allah Anho), Imam Khateem Ibne Asakar (Radi Allah Anho), and Imam Bahiqi (Radi Allah Anho), narrate in Kitabur-Roh'ya that Imam

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ibne Hajr (Radi Allah Anho), Ali bin Abi Urtahtah (Radi Allah Anho), reports a Hadith that has been narrated by several Shaba, in which Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah () has stated:

There are some Angel Almighty Allah who every limb Trembles from the constant fear of Almighty Allah Whichever of these Angels shads a tear, it is immediately transformed into an Angel before that tear can even reach the ground.

It has been reported that Sayyiduna Abush Sheikh 1.13 (Radi Allah Anho), narrates from Sayyiduna Ka'ab-ul-Ahbaar (Radi Allah Anho) that:

Whichever of these Angels sheds a tear, it change Into an Angel and flies away with the Fear of Almighty Allah.

1.14 Imam ibne Bashk'waal (Radi Allah Anho), reports a Hadith from Sayyiduna Anas (Radi Allah Anho), in which Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah () has stated:

Whosoever sends a Darood Shareef upon me with the intention of honoring me, Almighty Allah will

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transform that Darood Shareef (Salawat) into an Angel, whose one wing spreads to the East and one to the West. Almighty Allah commands this Angel: "O My Angel! Send Darood upon my servant as he has sent Darood upon My Beloved Habeeb (").

In response to this Divine Command, the Angel will

continues to send Darood upon the person till the Day of Judgment. Similarly, my illustrious father, Khatim-ul-Muhaqqiqeen Arif-e-Billah Moulana Naqi Ali Khan (Radi Allah Anho), in this famous book Al Kalam-ul- Awdah fi Tafseer-e-Sura Alam-Nashrah reports a Hadith from Imam Sakhawi (Radi Allah Anho), in which Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah () has stated: "There is one Angel of Almighty Allah whose one side is in the East and one (side) is in the west, When anyone sends Darood Shareef upon me out of love and devotion, this Angel dives into the Heavenly water and flutters his wing. From each drop that falls from his wing, Almighty Allah Creates one Angel who will be reciting Istagfaar (seeking pardon) for this person until the

1.15 In the book Mawahib-ul-Ladunnia, it is reported that:

There are some Angels who are constantly engaged in reciting the Tasbeeh of Almighty Allah for every Tasbeeh they recite, Almighty Allah Creates one Angel.

1.16 Sheikh-e-Akbar Sayyiduna Muhiuddin ibne Arabi (Radi Allah Anho), in his famous treatise Al

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Day of Judgment."

Futuhaa-tul- Makkiyah states: "Pious deeds and words take the form of an Angel, which elevates the Heaven." In his esteemed opinion, this is in accordance with the divine verse, which means, "Unto Him soars good words and pious deeds elevate it."

- 1.17 Imam Qurtabi (Radi Allah Anho), in his book Tazkirah, narrates on the authority of great Scholars who maintain that, "Angels will intercede on behalf of the reciter on the Day of Judgment."
- Imam Arif Billah Abdul Wahab Sharani (Radi 1.18 Allah Anho), states in his famous treatise Meezanush Share'a-tul-Kubra that, "Angels are created from the breath of pious people. Those that are created from the breath of pious women acquire greater beauty and chastity than those created from the breaths of men."
- From the above mentioned eighteen Ahadith and 1.19 quotations of great Scholars of Islam we can ascertain about the different ways in which Angels are created. These prove beyond a shadow of doubt that Angels are created daily in large numbers. Only their Creator and what He has revealed to His beloved servants who know their true numbers.

THE DEATH OF ANGELS

When Imam Waliuddin Iraqi (Radi Allah Anho), was questioned regarding the death of Angels, he replied:

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In my opinion, no concrete proof is on hand regarding this matter. However, mere conjecture in respect of this subject is unwise, as it leaver no room for me personal opinions and conjectures.

Contrary to this belief, the majority of the Ulama of the Ahle Sunnat are of the opinion that Angels are created from light delicate bodies. It is categorically proven from authentic sources that Angels will experience death without any doubt. Such a belief is in accordance with the Quranic verse, which proclaims:

Every soul shall taste death.

Sayyiduna Abdullah ibne Abbas (Radi Allah Anho), states that when the verse, کل من علیها فان "Every thing upon it (earth) shall perish" was revealed, the Angels proclaimed, "All dwellers upon the earth will die" meaning that they (the Angels) are safe from death. Yet, when the verse "Every soul shall taste death" was reveled, they proclaimed, "Now, we too will die" (Imam Raazi (Radi Allah Anho), records this in Mafaatiul Ghaib and Imam Ibne Jareer (Radi Allah Anho), narrates this from him.)

Sayyiduna Imam ibne Jareer (Radi Allah Anho), also reports from Sayyiduna Abdullah ibne Abbas (Radi Allah Anho), who states:

The Angel of Death is appointed to capture the souls of Muslims and Angels alike.

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Imam ibne Jareer (Radi Allah Anho), Imam Ibnus-Sheikh (Radi Allah Anho), and others also narrate another lengthy Hadith Shareef from Sayyiduna Abu Hurairah (Radi Allah Anho), that the Beloved Prophet () of Almighty Allah said:

و آخرهم موتا ملک الموت

"The last Angel to die will be the Angel of Death".

Imam Bahiqi (Radi Allah Anho), and Imam Faryaabi (Radi Allah Anho), record that Sayyiduna Anas (Radi Allah Anho), has narrated the following detailed Hadith from Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah (), Which proves comprehensively that Angels too will also experience death.

Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah () stated: "When everything will begin to perish only Jibra'il, Meka'il, and the Angel of Death will remain. Then Almighty Allah will State, 'O Angel of Death! Who else is still spared?' The reply will be, 'None but Thy Graceful Self, Who is Eternal, as well as Thy servants Jibra'il and Meka'il and the Angel of Death'.

"At this a Divine Command will be issued, 'Capture the souls of Meka'il' at which Meka'il will fall like a great and mighty Mountain."

"Once again Almighty Allah the All-Knowing, will Ask, 'Who is spared? The reply will be, 'None but Thy Graceful Self, Jibra'il and the Angel of Death.' Again the Command will be given, 'Capture the soul of

Jibra'il', at which Jibra'il will flutter his wings, fall into prostration and pass away.

"Finally, when the Angel of Death himself will pass away. The All-Wise, and Great Creator will proclaim, 'In the beginning, I brought the creations into existence and I will once more bring it to life. Where are those rulers that laid claim to kingship?' There will be no answer. The Almighty Allah Himself will Reply, 'Today, kingship belongs to Almighty Allah Alone, the sole Controller'."

From this Hadith we learn that even Almighty Allah's closest Angels will not live beyond the Day of Judgment. The crux of the matter is that daily numerous Angels are created, who engage themselves in the constant Tasbeeh of Almighty Allah and who live only until the of Judgment. These include Angels, which are created from the recitation of Darood Shareef. In fact, it is not substantiated from any Hadith that Angels will not be subjected to death. In fact, Sayyiduna ibne Abbas (Radi Allah Anho), makes it clear that before the revelation the verse, "Every soul shall taste death" Angels were not aware of themselves experiencing death.

With regards to the two Angels, Kiraman Katibeen, who accompany every Muslim, Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah) has stated:

"After the death of the Muslim, they soar to the heaven and seek permission to live there, but Almighty Allah turns down their request saying, 'My Heavens are full of Angels who are constantly engaged in Glorifying Me'. Then they will Reply, 'My creation has filled the earth, constantly glorifying Me.' Thereafter, Almighty

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Allah Will Command them to stand at the graveside of the Muslims and the servants of Almighty Allah to recite the Tasbeeh of Almighty Allah, and the Thawaab of which is then bestowed upon the deceased person".

Sayyiduna Abdullah ibne Abbas (Radi Allah Anho), narrates that Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah () has stated:

Angels will die at the time when the first Trumpet will be sounded on the Day of Judgment. The Angel of Death will capture their souls. There after, the Angel of Death him self will succumb to death.

CONCLUSION

After the completion of this work, I came across one Fatwa regarding the Angels found in Allama ibne Hajr Makki's (Radi Allah Anho) Fatawah Hadithiyah, in which the learned Imam affirms that Angels will experience death when the first Trumpet will be sounded, but the Carriers of the Divine Throne and the four exalted Angels will be the last to pass away. Regarding the birth of Angels too, he states:

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حيث قال ظاهر السنة ان الملائكة لم يخلقوا دفعتا واحدة

Angels are not created at one time Rather, this is an ongoing process.

Thereafter, Imam ibne Hajr (Radi Allah Anho), has narrated seven Ahadith, five of which I have already mentioned, while the other two are now added to the original eighteen.

Imam Abush-Sheikh (Radi Allah Anho), narrates 1.19 from Imam Wahab bin Mambah (Radi Allah Anho):

There is a fountain of Almighty Allah found in space, which is so huge that seven layers of earth can fit into it seven times. In it, one Angel from Heaven, whose size completely fills the fountain, descends. He bathes in this fountain and when he emerges from it, drops of light, drip from his wings. From each droplet, Almighty Allah creates one Angel who, like all Angels, constantly engages in the Tasbeeh of Almighty Allah.

1.20 He further narrates another Hadith from Savviduna Ula bin Haroon (Radi Allah Anho), who mentions that Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah (**) stated:

Jibra'il (Alehis salam) daily dives into the Fountain of Kauther and shakes his wings. From each droplet, Almighty Allah creates one Angel.

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By the Grace of the Almighty Allah and His Beloved Habeeb (), I recall another Hadith on this subject, be further including which can in In the book Kitabus Thawaab, Sayyiduna ibne Abid Duniya (Radi Allah Anho), and Sayyiduna Abush Sheikh (Radi Allah Anho) have recorded a Hadith of Sayyiduna Imam Jafar As-Sadiq (Radi Allah Anho), in which Sayyiduna Rasool Ullah () has stated:

Whosoever makes a Muslim happy, Almighty Allah will create one Angel out of this happiness who immediately engages himself in the worship of Almighty Allah and in exalting His Oneness. When this person passes away and enters the grave, this Angel will appear in front of him and ask, "Do you remember me? I am the same happiness with which you gladden the heart of a certain Muslim. Today, I will comfort you in your hour of fear, teach you the answers to the questions that will prove you a Believer and will show you your place in heaven".

N.B. The above Hadith Shareef is translated with full explanation for the reader to understand the concept and meaning of the context.

We humbly supplicate in the Court of the Almighty Allah that this explanation will have taught you about the life and existence of the Angels. Aameen.

In conclusion, Most Exalted is the King of the Mighty Throne, Lord of the Angels, who has distinguished

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Sayyiduna Muhammad-ur-Rasool Ullah () from the entire creation. May the Almighty Allah in His Infinite Mercy bestow the strength upon those who are misled on the straight Path and bestow upon those who are on the Straight Path to remain on this path.

Ameen Allahumma Ameen.

Written and Signed by;

The humble servant of Almighty Allah Almighty Ahmed Raza Barelvi (May the Merciful Lord forgive him) The ink of a scholar is more Holier than the blood of a Martyr. (Hadith Shareef)